Executive Proclamation
State of South Dakota
Office of the Governor

Whereas, America is witnessing a dramatic growth in its population of those 55 or older, a trend that will continue well into the 21st century; and,

Whereas, The graying of our population has already had a profound effect on public policy and will continue to help shape and affect the dynamics of our society; and,

Whereas, As our population continues to age, older workers will play an increasingly important role in maintaining our economy and America's leadership in the world marketplace; and,

Whereas, Americans age 55 or older are a dedicated and experienced core of our workforce. Their contributions to the nation, as paid workers and volunteers in both the private and public sectors, are immeasurable; and,

Whereas, While Americans age 55 or older represent one of our nation's greatest resources, challenges still exist for their full integration into the nation's workforce; and,

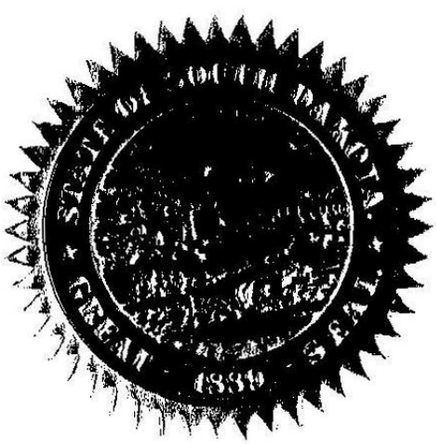
Whereas, We are witnessing the blurring of the line of demarcation, which has distinguished productive work years from those of retirement; and,

Whereas, The people of South Dakota support the efforts of the Department of Labor and Experience Works, and wish to continue those efforts to offer opportunities to the seniors in our communities:

Now, Therefore, I, M. Michael Rounds, Governor of the state of South Dakota, do hereby proclaim September 20 – 26, 2009, as

EMPLOY OLDER WORKERS WEEK

in South Dakota, and I encourage all South Dakotans to recognize the contributions of older workers as vital to meeting the challenges of the 21st century. I urge public officials responsible for job placement, training, and related services to intensify their efforts throughout the year to help older South Dakotans to find suitable jobs and training.



In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the state of South Dakota, in Pierre, the Capital City, this Ninth Day of September in the Year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Nine.

M. Michael Rounds, Governor

Attest:

Teresa Gray, Deputy

Chris Nelson, Secretary of State